

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STOCKH 01321 260739Z  
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01  
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02  
SS-15 USIA-06 IO-13 /079 W  
-----260747Z 123062 /12

P 251527Z MAR 77  
FM AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0148  
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA PRIORITY  
AMCONSUL ASMARA

C O N F I D E N T I A L STOCKHOLM 1321

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: EAID, PFOR, ET, SW  
SUBJ: SWEDEN CLOSELY MONITORING ETHIOPIAN SITUATION

REF: ADDIS ABABA 1712

1. THE SWEDISH FOREIGN MINISTRY IS NERVOUSLY MONITORING THE SITUATION IN ETHIOPIA FOLLOWING THE FUROR OVER A SWEDISH INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPEMENT AUTHORITY (SIDA) REPORT (REFTEL) AND A SHOOTING INCIDENT INVOLVING A MEMBER OF THE SWEDISH EMBASSY STAFF WHICH APPARENTLY OCCURED MARCH 24. ACCORDING TO MFA SOURCE, THE SHOOTING INCIDENT SEEMS TO HAVE INVOLVED A SWEDE VISITING THE EMBASSY TO WORK ON COMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT. PRELIMINARY REPORTS INDICATE THAT HE WAS INVOLVED IN CHECK-POINT INCIDENT IN WHICH GUARDS OPENED FIRE, AND WAS WOUNDED BY FLYING FRAGMENTS. HE IS REPORTEDLY IN GOOD CONDITION AND IS BEING AIR EVACTED TO MAIROBI MARCH 25.

2. THE SHOOTING INCIDENT HAS GREATLY INCREASED MFA CONCERN OVER WHAT SOURCE DESCRIBED AS "GRADUALLY DETERIORATING" SITUATION IN ETHIOPIA. MFA AND SIDA REPRESENTATIVES HELD MEETING IN STOCKHOLM MARCH 24, BEFORE SHOOTING INCIDENT OCCURRED, TO DISCUSS GOS OPTIONS. FOR TIME BEING GOS IS CONFIDENTIAL

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CLOSELY WATCHING DEVELOPEMENTS THROUGH FREQUENT CONTACT WITH ITS EMBASSY, AND PLANS ARE BEING PREQUIETLY DISCUSSED BOTH HERE AND IN ADDIS TO PREPARE FOR THE POSSIBILITY OF SUDDEN, RAPID WORSENING OF THE SITUATION. FOR THE MOMENT, NO "DRASTIC" OR "DRAMATIC" MOVES ON SWEDEN'S PART ARE PLANNED, BUT MFA WANTS TO BE PREPARED. MFA SOURCE EMPHASIZED THAT SWEDISH CONCERN WAS NOT DUE TO IDEOLOGICAL OR POLITICAL DIFFERENCES,

BUT RATHER TO THE INSECURITY ENGENDERED BY THE GENERAL  
ATMOSPHERE IN THE COUNTRY.  
SMITH

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
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22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009